

Claims

1. A method of performing lawful interception of a multimedia call between two or more terminals, the method comprising:

5           detecting the initiation of said call at monitoring equipment located in the call path;  
             forwarding from the monitoring equipment to a gateway, parameters defining at least one of the forward and reverse channels of said call;  
             setting up at least one multimedia call from said gateway to a monitoring terminal in dependence upon the received parameters; and  
10          following the setting up of the first mentioned multimedia call, intercepting forward and/or reverse channel data at said monitoring equipment, routing the intercepted data to said gateway, and transmitting the data to the monitoring terminal over the forward channel of the or each second mentioned multimedia call.

15 2. A method according to claim 1, said gateway performing a mapping between protocols used in the network connecting the terminals involved in the call being intercepted, to protocols used in the network connecting the gateway to the monitoring terminal.

20 3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the monitoring terminal communicates with said gateway via a broadband IP network.

4. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, said monitoring equipment forwarding to said gateway, signalling messages exchanged between the terminals involved in the call being intercepted.

25 5. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, said gateway performing transcoding of intercepted channel data.

30 6. A method according to any one of the preceding claims and comprising setting up a call from said gateway to the monitoring terminal for each of the forward and reverse channels of the intercepted call.

35 7. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 5 and comprising multiplexing/mixing the intercepted forward and reverse channel data onto the forward channel of a single call established between said gateway and the monitoring terminal.

8. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 5 and comprising establishing two calls between the gateway and respective terminals at the monitoring centre, forward channel data from the intercepted call being placed on the forward channel of one of these two calls, whilst  
5 reverse channel data is placed on the forward channel of the other one of the calls.

9. A method according to any one of the preceding claims, wherein the terminals participating in the first mentioned multimedia call are H.324 terminals, and said monitoring terminal is an H.323 terminal.  
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10. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 8, wherein the terminals participating in the first mentioned multimedia call are SIP terminals, and said monitoring terminal is also a SIP terminal

15 11. Apparatus for intercepting a multimedia call between two or more terminals, the apparatus comprising:  
means for receiving from monitoring equipment located within the call path, parameters defining at least one of the forward and reverse channels of said call, following detection of the initiation of said call by the monitoring equipment;

20 means for setting up at least one multimedia call to a monitoring terminal; and  
means for receiving intercepted forward and/or reverse channel data from said monitoring equipment, and for transmitting the data to a monitoring terminal over the forward channel(s) of the second mentioned multimedia call(s).